ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

I wish to express my deep sense of gratitude to Dr. C.V. Rajan Pillai, for his constant encouragement, able, valuable guidance and supervision throughout this research work.

I am very much grateful to Dr. Paulose Jacob, Prof. & Head, Department of Computer Science, Cochin University of Science and Technology for the timely helps rendered to me.

I also express my thanks to the authorities of National Library of Medicine, Washington, USA for supplying relevant literature through e-mails.

My sincere thanks are due to the scientists of Toxicology Division and library staff of Sree Chitra Thirunal Institute for Medical Sciences (Bio-Medical Wing), Poojappura, Thiruvananthapuram.

I would like to thank library staff of Indian Institute of Sciences and Ramaiah Institute for Medical Sciences, Bangalore for supplying information about Informetrics.

I am indebted to the officers and library staff of National Informatic Centre (NIC), Thiruvananthapuram, Cochin University of Science and Technology, Cochin, Kerala University Library, Department of Library & Information Science, Department of Biochemistry, University of Kerala and Medical College, Thiruvananthapuram who helped me at various stages of study.

My sincere thanks are also due to Immanuel Graphics, Trivandrum for their neat type setting and St. Joseph Press, Trivandrum for binding.

B. MINI DEVI